

Report to Manhattan Community Board 1 – Battery Park City Committee May 3, 2023

Presented by Nick Sbordone, BPCA (646) 531-2276 | <u>nicholas.sbordone@bpca.ny.gov</u>



TRIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC: Illumination Spring Showcase, the free, interactive outdoor light festival, kicking off the Battery Park City summer program and event season, is at Belvedere Plaza through Saturday, May 6.

NEIGHBORHOOD & PROJECT UPDATES:

- I. COVID-19 Vaccine Get vaccinated and stay up to date with all recommended doses.
 - All New Yorkers 6 months and older should <u>get vaccinated</u> and get their <u>booster</u>
 <u>dose</u> when eligible. If you are <u>experiencing symptoms</u> or were exposed, <u>get tested</u>,
 and talk to your healthcare provider about <u>treatment</u> if you test positive.
 - Read the <u>updated recommendations</u> for the use of masks and face coverings that all healthcare settings in New York should follow during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Read more: <u>Governor Hochul Updates New Yorkers on State's Progress Combating</u>
 <u>COVID-19</u> (April 28, 2023)

II. Summer 2023 Program & Event Guide



- BPCA's Summer 2023 Program & Event Guide details a broad range of free programming including outdoor concerts, music, art, nature, walking tours, fitness, and more across Battery Park City from May through August.
- Features illustrated program offerings organized by monthly event highlights and by those of interest to adults and seniors, school-aged children, and preschoolers, as well as info about classes at BPC's Community Center at Stuyvesant High School.

III. Coming Up in BPC

o Illumination Spring Showcase – Tuesday, May 2-Saturday, May 6, 7:30PM @

Belvedere Plaza. Immerse yourself in a one-of-a-kind outdoor light festival with Illumination.nyc. For five nights see Battery Park City in a whole new light, interact with light-based creations, dance to DJs under the stars, and catch surprise performances. The show closes on May 6 with a silent disco with QuietEvents.



- Contemporary Asian American Ballads

 Select Thursdays (May 4, June 1,
 July 6) @ Rector Park East. Starting in
 Asian American and Pacific Islander
 Heritage Month (AAPI), Asian
 American Writer's Workshop (AAWW)
 presents poetry readings, which will
 continue this summer. Since 1991,
 AAWW has helped define
 contemporary Asian American
 literature and provided an alternative
 platform to address issues at the
 intersection of migration, race, and
 social justice.
- I Love My Park Day Saturday, May 6, 11AM-12PM @ Rockefeller Park House. Calling all Citizen Scientists! Download the free iNaturalist app to learn about the vast diversity of wildlife that call BPC home. Every observation contributes to documenting the biodiversity of Battery Park City. Stop by the information table for more details!
- May 11, 6:30-8:30PM @ 6 River

 Terrace. In celebration of AAPI, BPCA presents Infernal Affairs (2002), codirected by Andrew Lau and Alan Mak. A story between a mole Hong Kong Police Force officer and another undercover cop, their objectives are the same: To find out who is the mole, and who is the cop. Free popcorn will be served with a discussion to follow. Screening paired with In The Mood for Love on Thursday, June 1. RSVP here.
- O Honoring Womanhood on Mother's

 Day Sunday, May 14, 2-3:30PM @

 Esplanade Plaza. Mahogany L.

 Browne reads from her books Woke

 Baby, Black Girl Magic: A Poem, and I

 Remember Death By Its Proximity to

 What I Love, a response to the impact

 of mass incarceration on women and

 children. Enjoy readings by other

poets who are mothers, music, and an art activity.

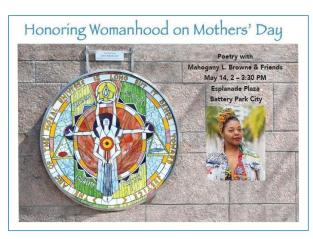
Contemporary Asian American Ballads



Celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May in Battery Park City







Go Fish! Battery Park City's Celebration of Life in the Hudson Estuary – Saturday, May
 20, 10AM-1PM @ Belvedere Plaza. Join experienced anglers for catch-and-release

fishing and learn about life in the Hudson River. Help observe and identify the fish we catch, enabling us to share valuable data with research groups who monitor the health of our local waters. The day also includes an art project and a nature walk. Plus – don't miss a live performance from carnaval troupe Bloco from the Block.

√ 10AM-1PM: Catch-and-release fishing

✓ 10:30AM: Art project✓ 11AM: Family show✓ 12:15PM: Nature walk

Mispachah Festival – Sunday, May 21, 10AM-5PM @ Museum of Jewish Heritage. The day-long Mishpachah Festival, focused on Ashkenazi heritage, will celebrate and explore Jewish genealogy, heritage, and immigration with JewishGen, the Museum's genealogy arm, and other partners. The festival will feature music, activities for kids and families, Jewish genealogy lectures, cooking demonstrations, Jewish heritage panels, and more.

Strings-on-Hudson: ARKAI – Thursday, May
 25, 6:30PM @ Belvedere Plaza. In celebration of AAPI, BPCA presents ARKAI, an award-winning electroacoustic duo that has inspired audiences around the world through their genre-defying string music.

IV. BPC Parks Happenings!

- BPCA's Parks Operations team focuses daily on a range of tasks to maintain BPC's world-class standards. Here are some examples of what's happening in May —
 - ✓ Power Up: For the third straight year, BPCA will also be participating in the New York Power Authority's <u>Tree Power</u> <u>Program</u>, which provides a one-to-one match for tree plantings at customer locations to increase native biodiversity and natural carbon storage.









- ✓ **Sign of the Times:** For the next two weeks, look for Arbor Day tree tags across our parks, highlighting the benefits of the wide variety of tree species that call Battery Park City home.
- ✓ Water Features...: The decorative fountains in front of the Museum of Jewish Heritage will be turned on, joining the water feature at Teardrop Park's Ice Wall and Teardrop Park South water fountains.
- ✓ ...And Water Play: As the weather gets warmer, the team will be ready to turn on the water play features throughout BPC – at Rockefeller Park, West Thames, Kowsky Plaza, and Teardrop Park playgrounds, as well as at *The Real World*.
- ✓ Parks Upkeep: Regular maintenance of parks irrigation lines continues, with turf care and overseeding scheduled this month on the popular Rector Park East and Teardrop Park lawns.
- ✓ Murray Street Spruce Up: We're also full steam ahead on placing new plant orders and redesigning the lawn space at Murray Street Triangle.
- ✓ **Spotted Lanternfly Management:** Our Parks Operations team is once again placing traps on trees to help reduce the Spotted Lanternfly population this year. Read more about this process here.
- ✓ Ramping Up: The <u>duck ramp</u> has been installed for the summer and fall months at the Lily Pond, ensuring safe access and egress for our seasonal feathered friends.
- ✓ Permeable Pavers Pilot: We've completed our second installation area along the South Esplanade and are beginning a third installation as part of this pilot program on the pathway along Rockefeller Park's north lawn.
- ✓ Hanging Around: A local favorite, South End Avenue's hanging flower baskets will be installed this month to provide a full season of blooms through autumn. You'll see our team out there three times a week watering them during the season.
- ✓ Tree Care: You'll also see BPCA's tree contractor regularly working and maintaining various trees throughout Battery Park City.
- ✓ **Dog Waste Compost:** The Authority will be receiving be receiving a new, dedicated dog waste composter this month. Capable of handling up to 100 lbs. of waste per day, the new composter will allow BPCA to streamline its expanding dog waste compost

program process and produce a quality product quicker.

✓ **Longer Days, Longer Hours:** The Irish Hunger Memorial and Teardrop Park's public restrooms are now open until 9PM daily through the spring and summer seasons.









V. BPC Seniors Webpage

 BPCA's dedicated "BPC Seniors" webpage provides information on events, news & services of interest to our local senior community: https://bpca.ny.gov/bpcseniors/

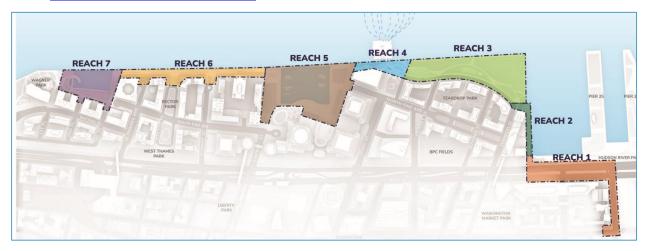
VI. Parks Lawns REMINDERS:

- After limited lawn closures last November, allowing BPC's heavily-used green spaces time for healing and regrowth, the Rockefeller Park south lawn, Rector Park East lawn, Murray Street triangle, lawns adjacent to the Irish Hunger Memorial, and the North End Avenue lawn <u>have reopened</u>. These join Rockefeller North lawn, Rector Park West lawn, and Teardrop Park lawns, which remained open throughout the winter.
- While leashed pets are permitted on hard surfaces throughout Battery Park City, they
 are not permitted on parks lawns. READ MORE: It's a Dog's Life in BPC

VII. BPC Ball Fields REMINDER: Spring & Summer Hours

- BPC Ball Field hours are 8AM-9PM daily
- BPC Ball Fields: Open Play Hours for May & June

VIII. BPC Resiliency Project Updates



- North/West Battery Park City Resiliency Project—
 - ✓ Geo-technical boring work to begin early June.
 - ✓ Public meeting #5 to be scheduled in June in consultation with CB1 to discuss 30% design.
 - ✓ Questions & feedback about the NWBPCR Project can be sent to: <u>nwbpcrinfo@bpca.ny.gov</u> | <u>Read more about NWBPCR here</u>
- South Battery Park City Resiliency Project—
 - ✓ Project construction underway; to be completed Spring 2025
 - ✓ Questions & feedback about SBPCR:
 - Rick Fogarty, Community Construction Liaison
 sbpcrinfo@bpca.ny.gov / (917) 624-5409; or by mail

Battery Park City Authority 200 Liberty Street, 24th Floor New York, NY 10281 att: SBPCR Project Team

✓ Read more about SBPCR here

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & STATUS UPDATES

BPCA Celebrates Earth Day with Weeklong Lineup of Free Programming



<u>EARTH DAY EVERY DAY</u>: Tours, talks, hands-on presentations, bees, honey, snacks, and S.T.E.A.M., highlighted Battery Park City's weeklong celebration of Earth Day with free programming for all ages from April 17-22.

- BPCA has continued to implement the <u>BPC Sustainability Plan</u> since the plan's launch in 2020.
- As the Authority celebrated Earth Day 2023 with a <u>weeklong lineup</u> of free public programming, we also mark our progress across the Plan's four topic areas: Energy, Water, Materials & Waste, and Site. Read more:
 - ✓ BPC SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: 2023 EARTH WEEK UPDATE

III. 'Justice Reflected' Art Installation Opened on Esplanade Plaza Wall

- Justice Reflected, on display through 2023, is a series of three mosaic panels created by critically-acclaimed artist and muralist James Yaya Hough.
- The temporary public art installation uses glass compositions to depict the experiences of incarcerated people, evoking feelings of isolation, despair, fear, and hope.



IV. COMMUNITY REMINDER - BPC Community & Dog Waste Composting

- Drop-off any time at two convenient locations:
 - ✓ BPCA @ 75 Battery Place
 - ✓ Tribeca Tool Room @ lower level of Chambers Street & River Terrace
 - ✓ Watch: Composting in Battery Park City
- Participate in <u>BPCA's dog waste composting program</u> at any of neighborhood's three dog runs as well as on the BPC Esplanade south of Esplanade Plaza – it's quick & easy!
 - ✓ Read: Making Dog Pee & Poop Green | Dogster
 - ✓ Watch: Why Dog Poop Composting Should Be Everywhere | One Small Step

V. COMMUNITY REMINDER – Manhattan Weekly Resurfacing Schedule

- Like all infrastructure, roadways deteriorate over time due to wear and tear from use, from the weathering by heat, freezing and thawing, and precipitation. Resurfacing and reconstruction is determined by a multitude of factors. The NYC Department of Transportation conducts regular inspections to assess pavement conditions, and assigns ratings based on the overall condition, patching, and cracking.
- Stay up-to-date with Manhattan's Milling & Resurfacing Schedule <u>here</u>.
- Sign up for NYC DOT alerts and newsletters <u>here</u>.

VI. Lost & Found Contact Information

Allied Universal Command Center
 200 Rector Place | (212) 945-7233 | <u>bpcallied@bpca.ny.gov</u>

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING:

I. 2023 BPCA Board Meeting Schedule (subject to change)

BPCA Board meetings are conducted in-person at 2:00PM (unless otherwise noted) at 200 Liberty Street, 24th Floor on the following dates, and livestreamed here: bpca.divacommunications.com/bpca-live

May 24	June 28		
August 16	September 27		
October 25	December 13		

- Watch BPCA Board meeting webcasts here
- o More information on our **Board Meetings & Materials** page

II. NYPD First Precinct Community Council

- Next Meeting: Thursday, May 25, 6PM @ NYPD 1st Precinct (16 Ericsson Place)
- 1st Precinct Updates: twitter.com/NYPD1Pct
- o More info: www.1stprecinctcc.org

III. NYPD Neighborhood Policing

About Neighborhood Policing

o Battery Park City's Neighborhood Coordination Officers are:

"Sector B" – BPC below West Thames Street

 P.O. Maxwell Outsen
 P.O. Serge Jean

 (212) 334-6462: O
 (212) 334-6462: O

 (929) 291-8732: M
 (929) 522-8409: M

 Maxwell.Outsen@nypd.org
 Serge.Jean@nypd.org

"Sector C" – BPC above West Thames Street

P.O. Thomas Nethaway P.O. Eugene Uske (212) 334-6462: O (212) 334-6462: O

(917) 238-2330: M



IV. NYPD First Precinct Community Council

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 25, 6PM @ NYPD 1st Precinct (16 Ericsson Place)

o 1st Precinct Updates: twitter.com/NYPD1Pct

o More info: www.1stprecinctcc.org

V. Upcoming Permitted Walks / Runs / Events

Organization	Event Type	Event Date(s) & Approx. Time	Attendance	Street Closures?	Notes
TD Five Boro Bike Tour / Bike New York	Bike-a-thon	Sat., May 6 & Sun., May 7 (bicycle retrieval only)	600	N/A	Bike <u>pick-up location</u> <u>only</u> @ Hudson River Greenway (West Street) btw First Place & West Thames. Route leaves BPC upon retrieval
American Heart Association	Annual Walkathon/ Festivities	Thurs., May 18, 5-8PM	10,000	Yes – Vehicular - Murray Street, - Battery Place - Third Place	Route will remain same: Enter @ Battery Place and Third Place; event ends @ Esplanade Plaza; festivities continue on Lower Plaza, Esplanade Plaza & Belvedere Plaza
NYPD Run Club 5K	Walkathon	Sun., May 21, 9:45-10:15AM	750	Yes – Vehicular - Liberty & Albany Sts. from West St. to SEA - SEA from Liberty to Albany	

BPCA – Allied Universal Quality of Life Statistics April 2022 vs. April 2023

TOPIC	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Graffiti	58	8
Homeless	1	10
Lost / Found Property	6	4
Park Rules	51	10
Vendor / Solicitor	0	0
Dogs	21	8